OTPE 3671

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

> Peoria, Illinois April 14, 2005

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

## I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>

An Office action was issued on December 20, 2004 ("the Office action"). In response thereto, and in accordance with the practice outlined in 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.111 and 1.112, applicants submits the following amendments and remarks and respectfully request that the application be reconsidered.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121, the amendments below include editing marks. New text is underlined (new text). Deleted text is marked with a strikethrough (deleted text) or double brackets ([[deleted text]]).